

THE  
LIVING WORDS  
OF A <sup>12</sup>  
DYING CHILD.

BEING A  
TRUE RELATION

Of some part of the Words that came  
forth, and were spoken by

JOSEPH BRIGGINS  
on his Death-bed.

ing on the 26th. day of the 4th. Month  
called June 1675. Aged 12 Years,  
Five Months, and 15 Dayes.

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Out of the Mouth of Babes and Sucklings  
hast thou ordained strength, Psal. 8. 2.

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Printed in the year, 1675.

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TO THE  
READERS,  
WHETHER  
Children or others.

**T**His Youth was a very dutiful Child to his Parents, and patient, and ready to receive Instruction; never was known to resist his Father or Mothers Advice and Council, but always ready to obey their Commands, and minded good things, being very bashful, and ready to put himself forwards to do any business to please his Parents or Relations; never

## To the Readers.

*sullen nor dogged; and what he did it was with all his might faithfully in obedience to a meek and quiet Spirit to the last Minute: In the time of his Health for Three Years last past, he used to go to hear at the Meetings of the People called Quakers, and no where else, and was by rude Boys scoff'd at, and called a Quaker. He was a very manly, meek and sober Child, not given to quarrel with any. What we have here related, that he spoke of the great Love of the Lord, both to his own Soul, and to his People, is far short of what he declared. His departure hence was on the Third day of the Fifth Month 1675. at 7 in the Morning, the 13 day of his Sickness; in great stillness and patience he entred into Everlasting Life.*

*And*

To the Readers.

*And we who were Eye and Ear Witnesses of this following Relation, do testifie, that his words were so in Verse, and in such a great power they were expressed, indeed greater than we can declare.*

*We whose names are subscribed, are Witnesses for the Lord in this matter, besides several others then present.*

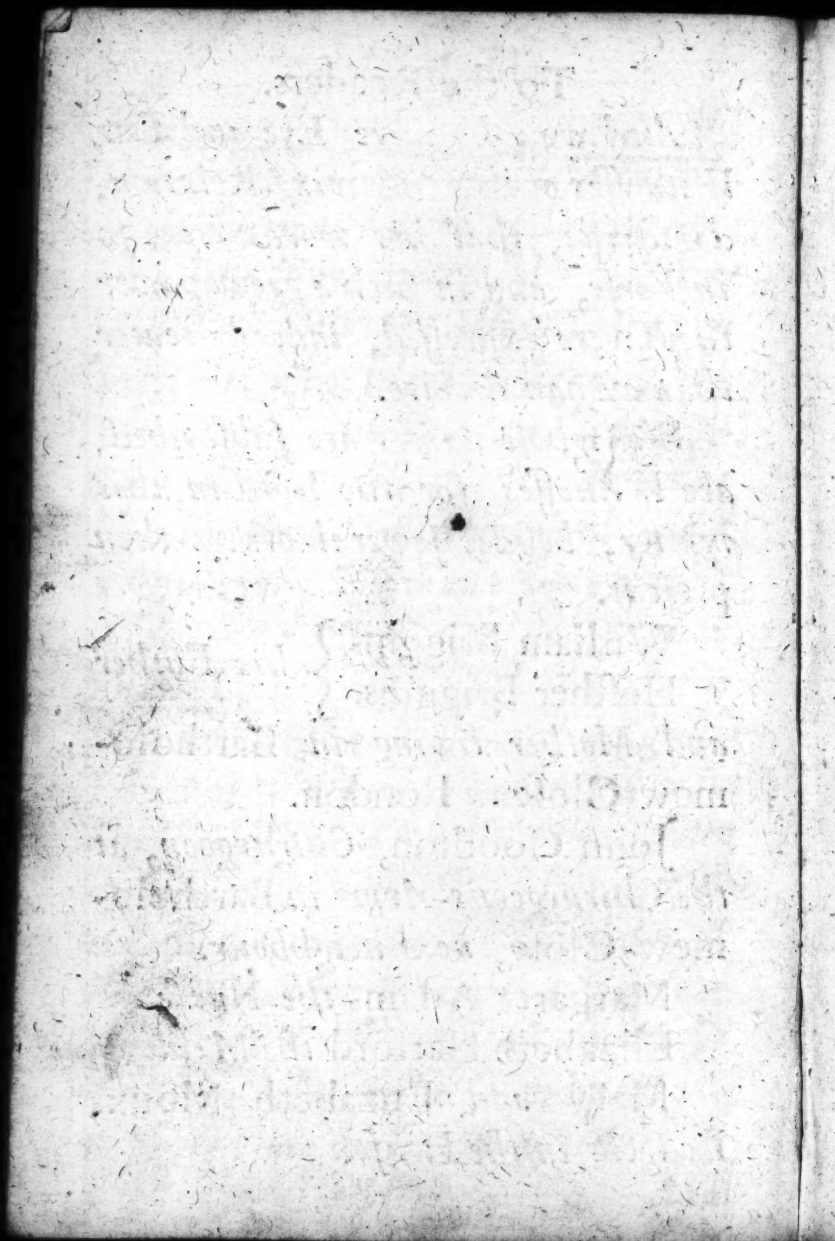
*William Briggins, } his Father  
Hesther Briggins. }  
and Mother living in Bartholomew-Close in London.*

*John Goodson, Chirurgeon, at the Chirurgeons-Arms in Bartholomew-Close, next neighbour.*

*Margaret Adams the Nurse.*

*Elizabeth Harford the Maid.*

*Mary and Elizabeth Moux,  
Lodgers in the House.*





## The Wonderful Sayings spoken by *Joseph Brig-* *gins*, worthy to be min- ded.

ON the 26. day of the Fourth Month, about the Seventh hour in the Evening, being (as we thought) very near death, after he had layen silent for about an hour, he began to appear full of exceeding great joy and pleasantness, and his mouth was opened, and he said, I shall praise the Lord, for he is only to be praised: So he went on in Heavenly words in Prayer, to the admiration of the Nurse and Maid that heard him; of all which they only could remember that he said in admiration.

Oh! I have never heard of any other God but thee, O my Holy One.

And the Nurse offering him some Cordial to drink,

Nay said he , I shall not eat nor drink until I have seen my Heavenly Fathers Face in Glory.

*And more and more he was changed and filled with exceeding great joy and pleasantness, and said,*

I have heard of thee, but now I see thee in Glory.

*And many Heavenly sayings and expressions came from him , the Maid and Nurse did think he had been neer going away: He hearing them speak so , He earnestly said, Pray call up my Father and Mother , for I have something to say to them concerning what I have seen of my Heavenly Fathers Glory.*

*So he went on uttering many Heavenly Sayings and Exhortations in sound judgement ; his Mother was called up , and seeing him so greatly changed in so short a time , she wept, and ran down stairs and called his Father, and several people that was there at that time ; and when he hears them come up , he joyfully called out,*

Father, Father , Oh Father ; and held out his hand, and shook his Father by the hand, and said,

Oh



Oh ! pure and glorious is my Saviour  
which hath appeared to me , and hath ta-  
ken me into his Kingdom : Oh ! mine eye  
hath seen his glory.

*His words were expressed in so great wis-  
dom and power that we were all amazed at  
them being also in Meetre for the space of a-  
bout one hour and a half praising God, and ad-  
miring him , and his glorious power , and  
Holy Order of glorified Saints and Holy  
Angels , and of the Glorious day of God  
revealed said he. Some of which many  
words he gave forth to us are as followeth ,  
viz.*

O most Glorious God , great and won-  
derful things are brought to pass by thy  
own pure holy power , by which thou hast  
revealed thy Son unto us thy Ministers ,  
O my King , O let all people fear and  
stand in awe of thy power , by which thou  
hast gathered many out of their sinful  
waies into pure obedience to thee : Oh ;  
thou hast given us a living knowledge of  
thee , O pure , glorious , holy God , let thy  
life reach unto all my dear Friends , and  
keep them that know thee firm and sted-  
fast

Iaſt upon thy Holy Foundation Chriſt Jeſus my King, whoſe appearance is very glorious at this day, and of his Government no end is to be; but thouſands of thouſands, millions of thouſands ſhall come to ſee, and be made wiſh me partakers of his glorious bright ſhining-day.

*Of which many words more he ſpake which cannot be remembered.*

*Again he ſaid, O Glory, Glory, Everlaſting praiſes be given to thee by me, and all we that know thee; O I have much to ſay for thee.*

*He was aſked if he knew what he had ſaid? his answer was, I have Preached the Goſpel to You.*

*His Father deſired at preſent to hearken and mind what he ſaid, and ſpake ſome of his words to them but he was grieved, and ſaid:*

O be ſilent all fleſh, and ſtand by, for we that have ſeen thy pure mighty Glory, can preach this Goſpel which is thy power, and the day comes on apace, that all that undertakes to ſpeak of thee, and obeyes not thy power, by this power they ſhall be

be brought to silence; there are many  
 waies and Baptisms in the World; but oh  
 thou Pure, Holy, Holy one; we thy Mi-  
 nisters have known thy Spiritual baptism  
 into Christ Jesus my Lord, by which the  
 living water have we known and felt. Oh  
 it is indeed exceeding pure, by which we  
 have been washed from all our sins. Oh my  
 King thou wast slain, and by the Virtue of  
 thy pure Blood, we have this gain, Oh that  
 all may wait continually upon thee, that  
 they may be kept from all the deceivable  
 waies of this world; Oh mind and serve  
 the Lord in your day for his Holy Truth  
 revealed in You is the way in which You  
 must Wait and Obey. Oh! Glorious  
 are the beams of his Sun that hath shined  
 into my Heart, in which I have seen the  
 glory of his day, although in the Grave  
 shortly this Body is to lie. But oh Glo-  
 ry, Glory, and Hallelujah's my Soul doth  
 sing to thee Oh my King for the Redemp-  
 tion of my Soul, that shall never dye; but  
 in praises pure for ever shall endure; a li-  
 ving taste thou hast given to me most sure;  
 O my Father and Mother; all my Friends  
 which

which to me are dear ; Yet a Glory I have  
 seen most bright, in which I shortly must  
 appear ; He is my King and Leader which  
 is my Saviour most dear ; O exceeding  
 glorious is this Holy place where Saints  
 and Angels in bright-shining Glory behold  
 his pure face ; Oh all obey his pure truth  
 in Your Day,

That You may feel the virtue of his  
 Grace,  
 For mortal man is but to run his Race.

And woe to them that shall not Obey  
 his Grace, for such do not feel his Virtue,  
 nor ever shall see his Face.

*Some were whispering together towards the  
 further end of the room, at which he seemed  
 to be grieved, and said these words, pointing  
 with his finger.*

Here is a spirit speaks in this Room  
 that is not of God.

*He was so much spent he could hardly  
 speak, and bid the people that stood by stand  
 further that he might have a little aire ; he  
 was offered something to drink ; he said he  
 would*

would not receive it; a little after he was pressed again to receive it.

No said he, if I should I should tell a lie, and gave a signe to put it away, and said,

Oh the Sons of God have better refreshment then a cup of cold water. And so lay silent a while, but again spake as followeth: The Lord hath taken me into his Kingdom, he hath discovered the fresh Springs of his Love to my Soul: All that know the Lord be obedient to his power, and he will discover himself more to you, and you shall know more, thousands, thousands millions will the Lord call: O that my kindred after the flesh might come to know the Lord.

Again after some time of silence he said,

Oh that my Fellows, my Companions might know the Lord, they shall know the Lord, they shall follow me: Here be some stand by me that do not know the Lord.

Which he repeated again and again, and then said,

What

What wait you to hear ? what do you all stand here to hear ?

*His Father answered him, they stand to hear what the Lord will speak by thee.*

He said no, all that are here do not wait to hear the Lord speak ; you do not all know the Lord, you think you know him, but you know him but in the notion, but when you come to die, you shall know that you did not know the Lord.

*When some spake of his being light-headed, and as though he should speak he knew not what, he seemed grieved, and earnestly said,*

I had rather be torn alive by Doggs, than that an impure or unholy Word should come out of my mouth.

*Some that knew him very well, wondered to hear him speak as he did, and said they had never heard such words come from him before; he said.*

The Lord hath fully made that known to my Soul which I had some feeling of before.

*On the next Day about the Seventh Hour in the morning he was very earnest in Prayer softly to himself; but some words were heard, viz.*



○ let all that know not thy pure truth  
come and receive it saith my Soul.

And sung of the Olive-tree , and the  
Fruit thereof which he had fed on, and of  
his refreshment he had thereby.

*He was asked what he meant by the Olive-  
Tree ? he said the Tree of Life.*

*And many more Heavenly Sayings he utte-  
red before he Departed to his Everlasting  
Rest.*

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**THE END.**